

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 08278 181730Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

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R 181621Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6313

INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 8278

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, GR

SUBJECT: POLYTECHNION OBSERVANCE

THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF POLYTECHNION UPRISING WAS OBSERVED SPONTANEOUSLY AND IMPRESSIVELY ON ELECTION DAY, NOVEMBER 17, BY THOUSANDS OF ATHENIANS VISITING SCHOOL GROUNDS AND OFFERING WREATHS AND BOUQUETS TO MANY OF WHICH WERE ATTACHED POEMS, PRAYERS, AND SAYINGS. BY AFTERNOON THE GREAT IRON FENCE WHICH SURROUNDS THE SCHOOL WAS A MASS OF FLOWERS WITH MANY CANDLES ALSO BURNING. THE MAIN GATE, DISCARDED LAST YEAR AFTER BEING MANGLED BY A TANK, WAS DRAGGED BACK INTO THE POLYTECHNION ENTRANCE COURTYARD WHERE A HUGE MOUND OF FLOWERS WAS PLACED UPON IT. THE STREAM OF VISITORS CONTINUED THROUGH NOVEMBER 18. LATER THIS WEEK A MAJOR MEMORIAL GATHERING IS EXPECTED TO TRANSPIRE WITH OFFICIAL GOG BACKING, BUT THIS SPONTANEOUS GESTURE OF ATHENIANS HAS ALREADY REGISTERED A DEEPLY MOVING TRIBUTE TO THE STUDENTS WHO RALLIED FOR FREEDOM ONE YEAR AGO WITH FATEFUL CONSEQUENCE TO THEMSELVES AND THE GREEK NATION.  
KUBISCH

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINS, GR  
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